

**Literary Analysis
Transcendentalism**

Locate at least 3 sources that will assist you in accomplishing the research essay below. Use a variety of reliable, scholarly sources.

On the Wikipedia issue: Although many teachers may ban students from using Wikipedia, I find it a decent source to begin your research. Wikipedia gives you keywords that may help you narrow your topic. The list of sources at the bottom of each page can be a valuable source to you as well. I encourage you to start your research here, but Wikipedia cannot be one of the 3 sources you quote and paraphrase in your paper.

When you answer the questions below, answer them with quotes and paraphrases from your research sources. Be sure to record the source on the source pages, and properly document the quotes and paraphrases.

1. **Define American Transcendentalism?** There may be multiple definitions.
2. **List the characteristics of American Transcendentalism?** This may require a lot of reading and synthesis of materials/texts. Take your time.
3. **Identify major and minor players in the Transcendentalist movement.** Create a chart that looks like the one below. Read/skim some of their works.

These three questions should be answered in your paper's introduction to topic.

Don't feel like you need to include everything you found, but maybe only the most important findings.

You might also include a brief explanation of the historical background of the Transcendentalist movement in your introduction.

Major	Works	Minor	Works

4. **Choose a transcendentalist work from one of the writers above that you enjoyed reading/skimming. Read it in its entirety (if you have not already) and begin to identify (highlight, underline, and/or create a list of) the transcendentalist elements in the text.**
5. **Write a research-based essay that discusses how the work you chose has Transcendentalist elements. Use quotes and paraphrases from your research and the transcendentalist text to write your paper.**
 - a. **Use the writing process: brainstorming, outlining, rough drafting, proofreading/editing/revising, and publishing.**
 - b. **Use your writing group for the proofreading/editing/revising step of the process**
 - c. **Must be written in MLA format**
 - d. **Must be word processed in Times New Roman font, double spaced, and have 1.25 inch margins**
 - e. **3-4 pages + works cited**
 - f. **Underline your thesis statement**
 - g. **Include at least 4 quotes/paraphrases from your research and 4 quotes/paraphrases from your Transcendentalist text.**
 - h. **Submitted to Turnitin.com**
 - i. **Hard copy submitted to me on due date**